



Jeremy Corbyn's election inspired hundreds of thousands to join the Party and reenergized many previous members. The old Labour leadership was "intensely relaxed about people getting filthy rich", as Peter Mandelson put it. They made it possible for a small minority to throw the economy into a speculative binge. Now the rest of us must pay. And they lied to lead us into a disastrous war. Those are not policies that resonate among the population. Opinion polls show policies close to Jeremy's 10 pledges (<http://www.jeremyforlabour.com/pledges>) are popular in the UK and internationally.

But the 10 pledges was not what people heard about from Labour leaders opposed to Jeremy. Instead, they said Jeremy's supporters are a rabble, dogs, entryists, and Nazi Stormtroopers who throw bricks through windows, trade homophobic insults, and support terrorism. No wonder many have no idea about what the Labour Party stands for and are reluctant to vote for it.

A different narrative is provided by other Labour leaders. They say Jeremy is a nice person with nice ideas, but he is incapable of leading. The media spins this into Teresa May being more of a leader, because she rapidly imposed her will on the Tory Party and has a clear plan of what to do. This is unchallenged by many Labour leaders.

It would be wrong for Jeremy to undemocratically stamp unanimity on the Party. Instead, there must be a movement from below to transform the Party. When the Parliamentary Labour Party, the NEC, the Compliance Unit, the Labour Party conference and the CLP leaderships reflect the views of the majority of members, the electorate will understand what the Labour Party stands for. And support it. The essential first step is the CLPs springing to life and electing new leaders. Up and down the country that has begun. Our slate, the Momentum International Grassroots Slate, is part of that.

The old managerial style of leadership reduced members to carrying out vacuous advertising campaigns designed at the top. The Labour Party must become a fully democratic organization. The right to free speech and to organise support for one's ideas is absolute. It applies equally to everybody in the party, at all levels. An artificial unification of the present day rightwing minority behind the leader would fundamentally undermine their rights. But rights are connected to responsibilities. Everybody in positions must accept being regularly held to account by members.

A change of the Party is a question of survival. In Greece, PASOK has practically disappeared. In France, the Socialist Party is reduced to 10 percent in the polls. The only European countries where old labour and socialist parties get more than 30 percent of the vote are Portugal, where the Socialist Party is opposed to austerity, and Norway, where the economic crisis has been minimal. When our Party is clearly committed to the 10 pledges and genuine democracy, it will inspire members all over the world to begin renovating their own parties. This would be the starting a real change of society and a union of countries untainted by austerity.

Please also support the other candidates on the Momentum International Grassroots Slate (<https://grassrootslicc.org>): Colin O'Driscoll, David Rothery, Jenny Semahimbo, and Rowan Shaw. Please also consider voting for incumbent LI secretary Lorraine Hardy.

I welcome people contacting me at any time by phone, e-mail, Skype or via Facebook, WhatsApp, WeChat, or Google Hangouts.

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